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# INDIANS AT • WORK



FEBRUARY 1, 1934

A NEWS SHEET FOR INDIANS  
AND THE INDIAN SERVICE

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, D.C.





# INDIANS AT WORK

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It seems probable (the result will depend on Congress) that Indian Emergency Conservation Work will be carried on until April 1, 1935.

If this shall come to pass, the value to Indian life will be almost incalculable.

First the material value. The unprotected forests will be protected, and much of the protective work will serve for years to come.

Range areas still useless from lack of stock water will be brought into use.

Erosion control on hundreds of thousands of acres will be greatly advanced.

And several million additional dollars of earned money will go to Indians in need.

But the human-life-value will, or can, far exceed the material value - if Indian Emergency Conservation Work can go forward into 1935.

Emergency Conservation Work means Indian organization, and Indian professional leadership. It means Indians, in groups, establishing mastery over their own environment in order to add to the common good. It means Indian Bureau service working with the Indians to make white-man management of Indian affairs increasingly unnecessary.

This is what Indian Emergency Conservation Work ideally means, and in practice it has largely meant just this. But there must be no let-down in the forward-reaching - the experimental - effort. There must be increased straining toward a union of the Emergency Conservation Work camps and projects with the life of the tribes as wholes. There must be increased - and systematic - effort to make of every camp in its leisure hours, and of every project in its work hours, a school in the practical and ultimate problems of Indian life.

For example, in the months ahead when momentous and debated legislation will be pending in Congress, there ought not to be one camp where the issues are not discussed, and the results of the discussion should be made known to Washington.

There is now being commenced a profound effort at re-making Indian education - Indian schools. Not just an effort to make boarding schools into high schools where previously they have been grammar schools, and to substitute day schools for boarding schools. But rather, an effort to find ways to make of the Indian schools places of education vital, realistic, practical, creative. Curricula, methods, and point of view of the teaching personnel - they must all be deeply changed. Indian schools should be made into instruments by which Indians - children and adults - explore, understand and master their environment. Their physical environment, but

equally their legal and governmental environment, and their recreative and human environment.

And that means - Indian schools must become Indian activities.

Whether the professional workers be white or Indian, their task must be to bring about Indian activity - individual and group - through the school. If they merely "teach", merely draw from the Indians initiative and preordained notions, merely stamp on Indian minds a book-learning pattern, then they fail - be they Indian professionals or white professionals. The Indian school which fails to be an Indian activity is worse than a negative failure - it is a deadly assault against the integrity and efficiency of the Indians.

Indian Emergency Conservation Work can contribute decisively to the aims and techniques of the new Indian education. For Emergency Conservation Work is Indian activity; and it is a learning through doing; and it is activity carried out for the sake of its own productiveness; and it is a concentrated drive upon the environment. A "curriculum" built out of Emergency Conservation Work would, or could, be a distillation of most of the needs, interests, forces and challenges of Indian life as a whole. And in Emergency Conservation Work, routine, as such, is not tolerated. Yes, Indian Emergency Conservation Work can go far to create the new philosophy of Indian schools. The leader training camps should become only a special case of education by Emergency Conservation Work - every camp and project should be its own school.

A final suggestion. There are tribes which as voluntary groups maintain their own irrigation systems, much of their road systems, their law and order and municipal business. Such tribes (for example, many of the Pueblos) are, in those cases where their lands are sufficient, largely independent of the rise or fall of business in the world at large, independent of the coming and going of Congresses, Presidents, Indian Commissioners. They, out of their voluntary and inner activity, out of their true self-rule, could survive revolutions which might devastate the quantitatively great community which surrounds them.

Even so, if the Indians generally are to establish self-rule and are to prosper, the Indian Emergency Conservation Work must become such an activity, toward objects so clearly needed by the whole Indian community and with methods so agreeable, that when Government money ceases to flow, the activity will not cease. To this end, it is essential that the camps and projects be integrated with that tribal life which in the year ahead, if hopes be fulfilled, will start to emerge on every reservation.

JOHN COLLIER,

Commissioner Of Indian Affairs.



THE LETTER RELATING TO INDIAN SELF-GOVERNMENT

On January 20 a letter went out from the Indian Office addressed to Superintendents, Tribal Councils and Individual Indians. Its subject was Indian Self-government. It should be read with attention by every person interested in the present trend in Indian affairs.

That the Indians should participate fully and intelligently in the proposed reorganization of Indian administration - particularly in self-government and management of matters of local policy and interest - that is the purpose of the letter. It states the need for the Indians on each reservation to be given an opportunity to consider plans for self-government and to formulate and present suggested methods of organization.

It stresses the fact that the proposed reorganization rests largely on (a) revision of the land laws, particularly the allotment laws, and (b) the formulation of Indian self-government, and then proceeds to list the evils which the allotment system has brought to the Indian people and to outline the program of the administration for tribal self-government.

Under these headings are lists of specific problems which need to be considered - such problems as the form of self-government, its functions, the tenure of land, the control of funds, the control of employees and the jurisdiction of the community. With these prob-

lems are given possible solutions, presented, it is explained, not for the purpose of dictating to the Indians, but simply to bring to their attention matters which will soon have to be considered.

To those who are interested in the administration's program and the future of the Indian race, this letter should be a helpful and significant document. It presents concisely the situation which gives rise to the administration's efforts. It presents possible procedures. Copies will be available to those wanting them.

\* \* \* \* \*

A MOVE TOWARD SELF-GOVERNMENT FOR AN INDIAN TRIBE - THE CHOCTAWS

Commissioner Collier has requested the Choctaw tribe of Oklahoma to gather in a constitutional convention, and there to nominate their chief and other officers and to adopt such organization as they may see fit. By existing law, the chief of the Choctaws, the tribal attorney and the mining supervisor are appointed by the Secretary of the Interior or by the President. The appointing power, however, can heed the wishes of the tribe. The hoped-for new organization of the Choctaws could have decisive effect upon the land problems and the assertion of citizenship rights by this large and virile tribe.

THE FORESTRY PROGRAM UNDER INDIAN EMERGENCY CONSERVATION WORK

By Ray Ovid Hall

Statistician, Indian Emergency Conservation Work

Total work already done, or to be done, with Indian Emergency Conservation funds could not be closely estimated until very recently. When work projects were being approved, last summer and fall, the splendid morale and industry of the Indian enrolled man had not yet been fully demonstrated. It was impossible to predict his response in terms of work likely to be accomplished. On the other hand, a few of our production executives were too optimistic. Actual experience with this new type of human organization was necessary before reliable estimates were possible. Then, an additional allotment of \$4,000,000 was received last October. The first trustworthy estimates, therefore, appeared in the January 1 work reports, just now compiled.

The revised estimates can be used safely for an appraisal of any branch of Indian Emergency Conservation Work. Herein they are applied to only our forest improvement campaign, which is, however, somewhat less important than our range improvement operations.

Types of Forestry Work Authorized

Indians already have such a huge proprietary stake in their timber stands, spread over some nine millions of acres, that their interests lie in forest

protection rather than in forest extension. The aggregate commercial value of those stands, in normally prosperous years, has been roughly estimated by experts

INDIANS IMPROVE THEIR FORESTS UNDER THE EMERGENCY CONSERVATION WORK PROGRAM



Forest Truck Trail Construction, Consolidated Chippewa



Sawing Felled Timber,  
Consolidated Chippewa



Clearing Fire Lanes,  
Consolidated Chippewa



Indian Forestry Crew Ready For A Hot Dinner,  
Consolidated Chippewa

at \$100,000,000. For five years before the depression, the annual sums collected from timber cut upon Indian lands ranged between \$2,514,000 and \$2,954,000. This explains why, with tens of thousands of man-days to be devoted to forestry projects, only about 14 square miles will be planted to trees by the Indian branch of the Civilian Conservation Corps.

For the same reason, rela-

tively little man-power will be expended on forest-stand improvement and on combatting tree diseases and insect pests. Timber stands will be improved on only about 18 square miles; and disease-and-pest operations will cover about 123 square miles. Even the "removal of fire hazards" (intensive and costly fire protection work) will be relatively unimportant, covering only about 31 square miles.

### Fire Lanes of A Transcontinental Reach

Almost the full strength of the Indian Emergency Conservation Work in forest operations (as distinguished from range improvement operations) will go into the protection of large areas against forest fires. That means non-intensive fire-protection work. Most of this man-power will go into the cutting of fire lanes - and into the building of new roads and trails located primarily as fire lanes over which fire fighters can be transported. The clear-

ing of fire hazards from the sides of old roads and trails - that is, the repairing of existing fire lanes - will be a very important item in the work. And one of the largest items of all will be the constructing of telephone lines, to spread the news of future forest fires and to mobilize fire fighters. Following are the carefully revised estimates of these principal items of the Indian Emergency Conservation Work program in its forestry campaign:

New fire lanes to be built .....	585. 0 Miles
New truck trails to be built .....	2,793. 2 "
New horse trails to be built .....	771. 8 "
Old trails to be made into fire lanes .....	773. 9 "
Total "fire lanes".....	4,923. 9 "
New telephone lines.....	1,949. 9 "

### Fire Fighting and Presuppression Last Year

The actual fighting of forest fires last summer and fall absorbed an important part of our man-days of labor at a few reservations. Man-days so spent by Indian Emergency Conservation workers before January 1, 1934

on all reservations totalled 13,585. (Say a thousand men for a fortnight.) Timber thus saved from immediate destruction should be counted among the numerous values produced by the "Indian at work".



Around 5,423 man-days went into fire "presuppression" or into fire "prevention" - a distinction devised by the forestry profession. Presuppression applies to fire guards, patrols and crews held in reserve up

to the time when action is taken to suppress actual fires; it includes also training in fire protection. Fire "prevention" applies to posting fire prevention signs, enforcing closed-area restrictions, mailing circulars to influence opinion, and so forth.

### Minor Items Of Our Forestry Program

The astonishing totals of fire lanes and telephone lines have been presented. So have the less striking measurements of a few other forestry items.

Below is a heterogeny of still others, mostly of less importance, but indispensable in a coordinated program of fire control.

Lookout houses to be built .....	15 units
Lookout towers to be built .....	13 units
Tree nursery work.....	1,787 man-days
Collecting tree seeds	
a. Conifers (cones).....	80 bushels
b. Hardwood and others.....	2,530 pounds
Timber estimating.....	1,080 acres
Landscaping.....	872 acres
Ponds for fish and water-fowl.....	21 units
Restocking fish.....	60,000 units
Experimental plots .....	45 units
Public camp-ground work	
Clearing of grounds .....	484 acres
Buildings to be erected .....	14 units
Latrines .....	71 units
Water systems .....	22 units

### Work Outout On A Per Capita Basis

The number of enrolled men at work will perhaps average 11,000 - from July 15, 1933 to April 30, 1934. Of these, not over 5,000 were in the forestry campaign; the rest worked at range improvement.

The average enrolled Indian in the forest branch will have to his credit, therefore, about one mile of trail and fire-lane work and two-fifths of a mile of telephone line. His intensive forestry work will cover about

24 acres. From that imaginary "average" patch of forest, he will have cleared out the fire hazards, thinned out the stand or eliminated tree diseases. He will have done a little tree-planting there too. For three exciting days of smudge and soot he will have fought a serious forest fire along his, or his neighbor's mile of fire lane. Besides, he will have found time to turn a hand to a variety of useful lesser tasks. Some of the time - his friends should hope he'll just lean on his shovel or his axe.

THE CHANGE IN INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE DIRECTION

After seven years as Director of the Indian Health Service, Dr. Marshall C. Guthrie has been transferred by the Surgeon General to the Directorship of the United States Public Health Service of the Baltimore District. The Baltimore District includes Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia, North and South Carolina, Kentucky, Georgia, Tennessee and the District of Columbia. The transfer by the Surgeon General was made at Dr. Guthrie's request. Dr. Guthrie is succeeded by Surgeon James G. Townsend, of the Public Health Service.

Since 1926, the Indian Health Service has been greatly expanded, and correspondingly improved as a professional service. Indeed, the beginnings of modern health work for Indians can be said to date from the start of Dr. Guthrie's directorship. The measure of Indian indebtedness to Dr. Guthrie can never be adequately told. In his new assignment, Dr. Guthrie will be relieved in some degree from the almost killing pressure which he has endured as Director of Indian Health.

Dr. Townsend, who succeeds Dr. Guthrie, has had wide experience in public health work and was assigned to the Indian Service for duty as District Medical Director the latter part of 1926, reporting for duty at Pendleton, Oregon, on January 15, 1927, to take charge of the district comprised of the States of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Utah and Northern California. After serving in this capacity for about seven months, he was withdrawn for duty in connection with Mississippi Flood

Relief. After approximately a year on this duty, he was assigned to immigration and quarantine duty in Europe with stations at Hamburg, Germany, and Naples, Italy. In the fall of 1932, Dr. Townsend returned to this country and was placed in charge of the U. S. Public Health Service exhibit at the Century of Progress Exposition at Chicago. After the Exposition closed, he was assigned as liaison officer with the Civil Works Administration, his duties having to do with the allocation of funds for sanitation work and the safeguarding of water supplies in mining regions. He reported for duty as Director of Health for the Indian Service on December 29, 1933.

Associated with Dr. Townsend will be Surgeon Joseph W. Mountin, U. S. Public Health Service, who for a number of years has been in charge of investigation of public health methods, including rural sanitation. Drs. Townsend and Mountin are now in the field.

Elsewhere in this issue (page 13) some of the conditions which these doctors are facing are told.



GRIM FACTS OF INDIAN DISEASE AND DEATH

The Montana State Board of Health has summarized the tuberculosis death statistics of Montana for a six-year period to 1931.

These statistics show an Indian death-rate, for the six years, of 775 per 100,000 of population, which is 15.2 times the white death-rate from tuberculosis in Montana.

But if one County be eliminated (Silver Bow County) and the Indian death-rate be compared with the balance of the State, an Indian tuberculosis death-rate of 27 times the white death-rate is found.

Among the Northern Cheyennes, the tuberculosis death-rate in the calendar year 1930 was 1690.5 per 100,000 of population, or 58 times the white death-rate in the State as a whole, exclusive of Silver Bow County.

Comparable facts exist with respect to the Indian populations of a number of other States.

Fundamentally, these appalling facts will be changed in the measure in which Indian economic life is improved, primarily through more land and the better use of land, and in the measure that Indian health habits and health education are rapidly built up. But clinical services to Indians are necessary and as yet are very inadequate.

The Indian Hospitals Have Entered A Crisis

Doctors and nurses who are continuously overworked and forced to cope with a limitless burden of acute diseases with inadequate facilities, cannot do their part in health education.

For many years the Indian hospitals were not fully patronized by the Indians. Since 1931 there has been a rapid increase in the number of patient-days; in the number of out-patient treatments; in the number of live births; and in the number of serious surgical operations. The increase, taken all together, has gone near to doubling the amount of work done in the hospitals. There has been no increase whatever in the appropriation for hospitals since 1931.

In 1931, the Indian hospitals were notoriously under-supported. The number of nurses per patient was improperly small; the clerical staff was very inadequate; the staff of physicians was admittedly insufficient.

With the immense increase of work, and the static budget, the practical effect has been to reduce the appropriation for these already under-appropriated institutions.

1. Out-patient treatments increased from 359,098 in 1931 to 530,626 in 1933 and the 1934 total will be much larger.

2. Live births in the hospitals increased from 816 in 1929 to 2,227 in 1933.

3. Patient-days in hospitals were 677,241 in 1929; they were 869,625 in 1931; they were 1,077,948 in 1933; and they will be considerably more in 1934.

4. But the appropriation for hospitals, which stood at \$2,382,000 in 1932, stands at only \$2,251,600 for 1934 and the budget allowance for 1935 is only \$2,254,800.

### Nightmares In Hospitals

Some of the results of these facts are told by Miss Elinor D. Gregg, Indian Service Supervisor of Nurses, in the following memorandum which was presented to the House Committee on Appropriations in December:

The conditions which are prevalent in the Indian Service, due to substandard ratio of nurse to patients, are illustrated by the following examples which I have encountered on supervisory field visits:

One nurse on 24-hour duty in a school hospital had a little girl dying in an upstairs ward with tubercular meningitis, having severe convulsions every half hour or so. Her lips and tongue were swollen and bleeding because of her having bitten them. Downstairs there was a boy having been ill with typhoid fever, he had hemorrhaged twice, for seven weeks. He was not wildly delirious, but his mind wandered so that when left alone he tried to get up. The single nurse has slept, or tried to sleep in the hall where she could hear both these cases. The answer to my query as to getting another nurse was, "No funds".

When I insisted that something must be done the Superintendent hired an old man to sit with the boy. The Indians have contempt for this sort of care provided by the Government. No nurse can care for patients day and night and meet the demands properly when unusually sick patients are admitted.

Recently in a 60-bed hospital filled to capacity we found one nurse on night duty. She had

among her 65 patients two new obstetrical cases, one newly-operated gallstones with drainage, one boy with seven feet of intestines removed five days before and barely on the living side of the balance, two bed cases of tuberculosis - and we expect her to handle this and be in the receiving ward for any automobile accidents that are brought in. This is inhuman to the patient, and incidentally inhuman to the nurse, whose training has taught her better standards.

Last summer I found one nurse caring day and night for a gonorrheal infection of the eyes, a second-stage case of syphilitic ulcers, an advanced tuberculosis and two newly-delivered obstetric cases. If the obstetric case or the baby developed gonorrhea or syphilis, was the nurse to blame? There were 15 other patients under her care.

The general impression is that the up cases don't require nursing care. I saw the dismay of the nurse with 28 patients to care for on finding a lively trachoma case emptying the ice chest of the typhoid and smallpox vaccines - so that he could play with the little needles. Up cases need constant watching not to spread infection. One little girl, admitted for arthritis deformans, in two years contracted chickenpox, mumps, scarlet fever and died of tuberculosis.

I find white C.C.C. patients, surgical cases, in the open ward with 10 acute gonorrhea cases, all using the same toilets, and one nurse going from bed to bed taking temperatures. On the porch are six tuberculous small boys. One nurse responsible for cross infections in these groups.

I cite the case that came to the attention of the Indian Office of the two-nurse hospital where the night attendant, an Indian woman of more than average intelligence, did not manage to keep a young lad, newly operated on for ruptured appendix, in bed. The boy died - perhaps not the Indian woman's fault, but the parents ask the Commissioner of Indian Affairs why we can't have graduate nurses.

An old man told the field nurse his wife needed an operation but he refused to have it done because there were only two nurses at the hospital. In Omaha, he explained through the interpreter, things were not like the Government hospital - if a patient was cut open there there was always a nurse to watch and care for him.

Then we have the case of the nurse with 20 patients up and downstairs to care for - one a new-born baby and another, the baby's aunt as it happened, a dying tuberculosis case. The nurse heard the dying patient groan and faintly ring the bell. She left the baby wrapped up on a table in front of the radiator, in order to answer the bell, and returned in a few minutes to find the baby on the floor. Newborn babies can't roll, and the janitor had been in the room collecting laundry. The baby died from cranial

hematoma and burns. This was perhaps negligence on the part of the nurse but it is the kind of negligence that develops where over-pressure exists continuously.

In our three-nurse hospitals we frequently find that all three nurses are in the operating room for more than two hours, one for the ether and two scrubbed up to assist. One of the attendants handles the unsterile goods, but if she brushes against the table the patient's life is in jeopardy. Many doctors refuse to do this type of jackknife surgery and the Indians lose confidence in the Service.

Recently I found all three nurses on duty in the surgery, the night nurse on duty 16 hours giving the anaesthetic, the two day nurses leaving the patients to take care of themselves or get what they needed from the ward maids, and the dispensary work waiting in the hall. They do the best they can and shrug their shoulders or talk over accidents. The morale goes down.

The hours of work for hospital employees in the Indian Service range from 54 to 84 per week. The night nurse may get an extra free day at the end of the month, or she may have two short nights during the month. The hard physical work up and down stairs, or covering the whole floor, the impossible demands on one's technical skill and standards, the isolation, the month of night duty recurring so frequently, the varied demands which in large organizations are carried by technicians, anaesthetists, clerks, stenographers, dieticians, physicians all contribute to the turnover of nurs-

ing personnel, which has never been below 65 percent. When other work was available, before the depression, the turnover ran as high as 125 percent - a rate

of two and a quarter nurses in every position once a year. Other Government services have eight hours duty, and their turnover ranges from 17 to 31 percent.

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#### MR. SNIFFEN'S FIFTIETH YEAR OF SERVICE

On February 4, the Secretary of the Indian Rights Association, Mathew K. Sniffen, will complete his fiftieth year of continuous service in the cause of Indian welfare. Mr Sniffen seems now to be at his peak of efficiency. He will have the congratulations of hundreds of friends in the Indian Service and the tribes.

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The cover picture shows Indian Emergency Conservation Work crews engaged on a reservoir project at San Carlos.

THE PROPOSED NEW ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION SYSTEM FOR THE INDIAN SERVICE

The bearing of legislation, essentially technical, upon the human welfare and the self-help of the Indians is well displayed by the so-called alternate budget, which President Roosevelt has submitted to Congress.

The "alternate budget" would take the place of the present budget and it would mean a new and simplified Indian appropriation bill. The essential feature would be to exhibit all expenditures in terms of the reservation or place where spent, sub-divided into the functions or types of work at the given place.

This exhibit would be made for the past year and the year ahead, and it would enable the Indians, the Indian Service people, Congress, and the general public to know exactly what was being bought for Indian service through the spending of Government and tribal money.

It would enable the appropriation committees and members of Congress to criticize the Indian Service operations with a full knowledge of past facts and future plans, and would facilitate the amendment of the appropriation bill on the floor as well as in committee, while at the same time it would furnish the data needed for intelligent amendment.

The appropriation bill, by this changed plan, would not contain 460 fragmentary, duplicating and over-lapping appropriations and limitations, as at present, but would contain 12 gratuity and 12



tribal fund lump sums, which would be aggregate appropriations for functions.

The bill itself would rest on the justifications supplied by the Department, which justifications would exhibit and explain the past and intended uses of money by reservations and places and by functions within these local areas. The expenditure of the appropriated moneys would be controlled by these justifications.

A committee amendment of the budget request would be achieved through increasing or decreasing the appropriation lump sum, and through stating in the committee's report the object intended by the committee.

Similarly, an amendment on the floor would be achieved by moving to increase or decrease a specified aggregate appropriation and through stating the object of such increase or decrease.

The Departmental justifications, as corrected by the committee report, and both of these as corrected by any amendments on the floor, would be binding upon the Comptroller, the Department, the Budget and the whole Government, with exactly the same force as if they had been written into the appropriation bill.

But with the changing situation year by year, the bill would remain simple and intelligible, instead of being a Noah's Ark, which it is at present - a Noah's Ark carrying not only the hundreds of surviving species of Indian Service activities, but most of the fossilized and extinct species as well. A Noah's Ark, it may be added, covered with barnacles and with a rudder which Congress itself cannot control. But is the Ark comparison quite correct? The animals

in the Ark were after all whole animals. In the appropriation bill they are, in many cases, merely butchered and preserved fragments of whole animals.

The importance of the new localized and functionalized accounting and budgeting, in their bearing on Indian self-government, will be clear to all Indians. The alternate budget, so-called, originated with the Senate Indian Investigation Committee a year ago. The Committee rendered a comprehensive report on the subject. The Administration adopted the plan, which now has gone to Congress from President Roosevelt. The House Committee on Appropriations has rejected the plan, so that the appropriation bill as passed by the House is the old, familiar, but largely inscrutable legislative monster of the past. The Senate now is considering the President's proposal.



FARM AND GARDEN PLANS

The planting season will soon be with us again. Every Indian whose circumstances at all permit, should have a garden. He should save his money and make his plans accordingly.

Superintendents, Extension Agents, Farmers -- all will be glad to help in any way possible. Indian workmen can be excused from camp and jobs for such time as they are needed to see to their plantings at home. Those who have extensive farming operations as well as family gardens should go ahead with this farm work just as usual this spring, even if it means considerable absence from their Emergency Conservation Work camps or other work projects. While none of us know how much of a crop can be raised, how bad the drought, the grasshoppers or other plagues, it is not to be desired that we drop our farm work just because there is other immediate employment.

The Emergency Conservation Work, the Civil Works projects and the road work under Public Works can not last forever on their present scale. They were begun as emergency measures; it is hoped that they will develop into integral parts of the Indian communities, to be carried on only on such a scale as necessity directs. In the mean time normal life must go ahead.

Family gardens to provide food for immediate consumption and for storing for the winter are part of the normal existence. Continued farming operations on the usual scale are part too. In looking toward the future, let us not forget this -- gardens should be planted.

SOME FIGURES ON THE INDIAN LAND SITUATION

Land studies recently made on Indian reservations bring out some striking instances of the extent to which the "alienation" of allotted lands has taken place. These figures are particularly revealing in that it is by reservation that they have been compiled. Being thus concerned with individual units, rather than with large averages, they present an idea, in human terms, of the hopeless future which will confront many tribes - and now does confront many individuals - unless the land laws are revised.

The accompanying table gives a picture of the actual land situation on nine reservations. The small amount of remaining tribal lands and the numbers of landless Indians should be noticed. These reservations are representative of an advanced state in the progressive landlessness toward which all allotted Indians are moving. They are chosen because of their high percentages of alienated lands, which average 74.

Of the total allotted area of Indian lands today, only 33 percent is still held in trust for the original allottees. Twenty-seven percent is held for heirs of deceased allottees and 40 percent has been alienated or released from all trust control.

These are the averages; but as the table shows, on many reservations, the situation has gone beyond them and already reached an acute stage. The averages, however, are bad enough. The time has come when action is strongly indicated.

EXAMPLES OF THE FAILURE OF ALLOTTING TRIBAL LANDS  
TO INDIVIDUAL INDIANS\*/

State	Reservation or Tribe	Present Status of Total Lands Allotted						Remarks
		Owned by Non-Indians		Owned by Orig. Allottees		Owned by Allottees' Heirs		
		Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%	
Calif.	Koopa Valley	15,131	46	3,827	12	13,927	42	Remaining tribal land still held in trust is mountainous.
Calif.	Round Valley	25,705	61	6,114	15	10,295	24	Has only 502 A. of tribal land left.
Idaho	Nez Perce	96,192	55	21,606	12	57,547	33	Still has 32,660 A. of tribal land.
Michigan	Isabella	89,090	98	340	0.5	1,410	1.5	Band has 428 landless members.
Michigan	l'Anse	48,035	82	2,812	5	7,656	13	Tribe has more than 500 landless members.
Michigan	Ontonagon	1,827	72	400	16	324	12	No tribal land left, and 35 are landless.
No. Dak.	Fort Totten	86,463	63	14,690	11	35,981	26	Has 80 A. of tribal land.
Oklahoma	Pottawatom	224,840	97.6	1,720	0.7	3,920	1.7	Has 510 A. of tribal land but over 2,500 landless members.
Wisconsin	Oneida	64,831	99.0	Negligible		Negligible		Tribe has some 3,054 members without land.

\*/ Examples are chosen mostly because of the high percentages of lands "alienated" (lost to Indian ownership).



The Bear

This is a photograph of a fine wood carving by J. L. Clarke, Blackfeet Indian artist. Under the Public Works Of Art Project, a revived interest is being taken in Indian artists and their works, while the committee appointed by Secretary Ickes to study the question of Indian arts and crafts is also working toward securing better advantages for the native American.

AN INDIAN ARTIST

The effort being made by the directors of the Public Works of Art Project to assemble the names of outstanding Indian artists who might be engaged on some of the proposed undertakings has directed attention toward a number of Indian men and women of impressive artistic accomplishment. Among these is John L. Clarke, woodcarver and painter, creator of the delightful figure of The Bear shown on the page opposite, and three-quarter blood Blackfeet Indian.

Mr. Clarke's achievements in the arts are such that he has received worthy recognition. He exhibits annually at the Chicago Art Institute and the Philadelphia Academy of Fine Arts, where his figures of our native western wild animals have won him several awards. A mountain lion carved in cottonwood was the subject of a gold medal award at the Philadelphia gallery, while a mother bear and cub received a silver medal rating. He maintains a studio on the reservation where he keeps his major works. These are not for sale, he says - at least not during his lifetime.

Mr. Clarke's achievement of success and self-expression have more than simple artistic interest; they have a human value too, for he has been obliged to contend all his life with a serious physical handicap. As an infant he suffered an attack of scarlet fever; it left him without hearing or speech. Notwithstanding so severe an affliction, he devoted himself to artistic pursuits even at an early age. Untutored, he demonstrated such high native ability that friends interested themselves in his cause and he was sent to the St. Francis Academy at Milwaukee to be educated.

Today Mr. Clarke, no longer quite young, lives quietly on the Blackfeet Reservation, but his reputation has gone abroad among critics and art patrons. Some of the distinguished latter who have interested themselves in him are Senator James Couzens of Michigan, John Manville of New York City and John D. Rockefeller, Jr. He has loaned The Bear to the Indian Office for a brief time. That it is not possible to keep this most engaging fellow indefinitely is a matter of general regret.

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To investigate the trading system on the Navajo Reservation, Dr. E. Youngblood, Principal Agricultural Economist of the Department of Agriculture, is being loaned to the Indian Service for work across a term of months. The Navajo Tribe at its annual meeting January 30 last, requested Secretary Ickes to have the investigation made. The investigation of trading among the Navajos is really an investigation of the practical relationships of the Navajos with the outside world. Dr. Youngblood will study the Navajo economic life in its entirety. He will work closely with the Soil Erosion Service as well as the Indian Service and the Navajo Tribal Council.



THE EMERGENCY EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS AND THE SIOUX

Early last November the Office received a letter from Ralph H. Case relative to the economic distress among the Sioux. Mr. Case, who is thoroughly familiar with the situation, said among other things:

"The conditions disclosed by reports in my hands are appalling. The Sioux Indians of the reservations named are facing starvation conditions during the coming winter.

"My reports come from members of the Sioux Tribe who are all well educated, who are living on our reservations, who know the conditions and who are absolutely reliable.

The reservations which Mr. Case referred to are Standing Rock, Cheyenne River, Crow Creek, Lower Brule, Santee, Rosebud and Pine Ridge. It is these jurisdictions that were most disastrously visited by drought and grasshoppers last summer.

The Indian Office has made the fullest possible use of the emergency employment relief measures at its disposal. By the end of December 657 Indians had been given work under the Emergency Conservation Work on these reservations and 1,197 under the Public Works Road Building program. By the 15th of January 694 had been employed under the Civil Works Administration. This gives a total of 2,548 men placed in gainful employment, who otherwise would have had nothing to turn to during the winter but charity. The number of individuals actually benefitted probably reaches 10,000.

On January 9, Mr. Case wrote Commissioner Collier as follows:

"I desire to express to you my personal thanks for your activity in securing relief work and relief rations for the Sioux Tribe of Indians of South Dakota, North Dakota and Nebraska.

"I presented this matter to you under date November 16th, 1933, based upon reports in which I had absolute confidence. I now have further reports from every reservation involved assuring me that due to the increase in employment the situation has been met to the point where there will be no suffering. Your visit to the Sioux country was immensely appreciated by the Indians. Every report I have now confirms my statement that there will be perhaps not abundance but certainly there will be sufficient food so that no one will go hungry through the balance of the winter."

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THE "NATION" NAMES COMMISSIONER COLLIER ON ITS 1933 HONOR ROLL

For some years the NATION has, at the end of each twelve months, published a list of names of Americans who, in the opinion of the editors, have merited honor from their fellowmen for achievement during the period. This list is known as the NATION'S Honor Roll.

For 1933 the general citation was given as follows: "A list of Americans who seem to have deserved well of their countrymen in public affairs and the arts in the prededing year."

There follows a classification in groups, the first of which is National Recovery. Commissioner Collier is cited here as follows: "John Collier, who was appointed Commissioner of Indian Affairs after a lifetime of devotion to the welfare of the American Indian and who has taken the first steps toward restoring the Indian lands to tribal rather than individual ownership and toward abolishing the hated Government boarding schools". Seven other names were included in the group.



THE SAN CARLOS IRRIGATION PROJECT - ARIZONA

The San Carlos project, when completed, will provide for the irrigation of 100,000 acres of land. Half of this area will be owned by Indians - the Indians of the Gila River Reservation, to whom it is allotted in ten-acre tracts. The other half is white-owned.

At present 20,000 acres of the Indian land is already under irrigation. Funds to take care of the remaining 80,000 acres have been provided



Pima Indians Making Concrete Pipe For The San Carlos Project.

from the Public Works appropriation to the amount of \$2,338,000. This will finance the construction of the canal, the distributing system, the storm channels and structures. It will also provide for the drilling of fifty wells on the Indian lands, the equipping of these wells with electric pumps and the construction of the necessary electric power transmission lines to

bring power from the Coolidge Dam. It is expected that these wells will furnish water for 20,000 acres and will supplement the gravity flow of the Gila River to furnish a complete water supply for the entire area.

The lands selected for irrigation are the best of the reservation. They have been examined, tested and classified by experts of the Bureau of Soils of the Department of Agriculture and are reported excellent.

The new irrigation system will be modern in every way. Except for two siphons, the construction work will be done by force account. There will be an extensive system of storm channels to protect the farmlands from the flashy runoff that follows heavy showers in this country; these channels will conduct the storm water away from the irrigable farms. There will be a large amount of concrete pipe used and this will be manufactured in the project pipe making plant, by Indian labor.

The construction work is giving employment to a large number of Pima Indians who need both work and funds. They are performing all the common labor and a large part of the skilled. Qualified Indians are now filling the positions of foremen, sub-foremen, carpenters, mechanics, truck drivers, operators of tractors, graders and concrete mixers. They are doing the work of oilers on draglines and rodmen and chainmen on survey parties.

The Pimas are good workers and have demonstrated their

ability to master any of trades required in the construction, maintenance and operation of an irrigation project. The training they are now receiving on this project will fit them to handle all of the work required to construct, maintain and operate their own system in the future, with little if any assistance from the whites.

C. J. MOODY

Project Engineer

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R. L. Whitcomb, Assistant Engineer, writes the Office of the progress of the road building program in Oklahoma under the Public Works Administration as follows:

....Investigated road projects at Shawnee under construction....Very excellent work has been done at this Agency in the projects under way. The work consists mainly of improvement to township and county roads presently in trail condition.

Visited the Quapaw Agency at Miami, Oklahoma, going over location with Superintendent.

One of the projects completed is of particular interest in regard to the amount expended and the quality of workmanship. This project consists of the lowering of grade on two steep hills to a bridge approach, the construction of the bridge of a twenty-five foot span, riprapping the bridge wing walls, riprapping the embankment, making a large fill the maximum height of which is twelve feet, blasting drainage ditch and so forth.

In all this project is about four hundred and fifty feet, with an eighteen foot roadway. It was built with all-Indian labor and no engineering supervision, at a cost of \$1,600. An excellent job.

## INDIAN SUPERVISORS REPORT ON EMERGENCY CONSERVATION WORK PROJECTS

The following notes are taken from weekly reports on IECW projects. In every case the individual reporting is an Indian, directing Indian workmen.

The Leader Camp At Cameron, Arizona. This was the first week of the Leader's Camp located at Cameron, Arizona. Men started arriving on January 6 and camp officially opened January 8. The first work was to prepare the summer camp for winter occupation. January 8 and 9 were spent on this work. It is the plan to give the men as much practical experience as possible, with this end in view one group started a well in the bottom of a wash. Another reconnoitered Gray Mountain for the location of a horse trail whose general location was made and actual staking and construction was well under way by the end of the week. Boundary survey was started on erosion control area just south of Tuba City. Erosion control on this area will be one of the major projects of the camp.

The following reservations are represented in this camp: Hopi, Hualapai, Zuni, Jicarilla Apache, and every Navajo jurisdiction.... You are invited to look over the camp at any time. This camp is located right on the highway going to Tuba City, Arizona. William R. Upshaw, Camp Manager.

A Family Camp Worker Reports. What we teach the women in camp every day they are taught to keep their home clean in their yard and teach them to keep their dishes clean and their children.

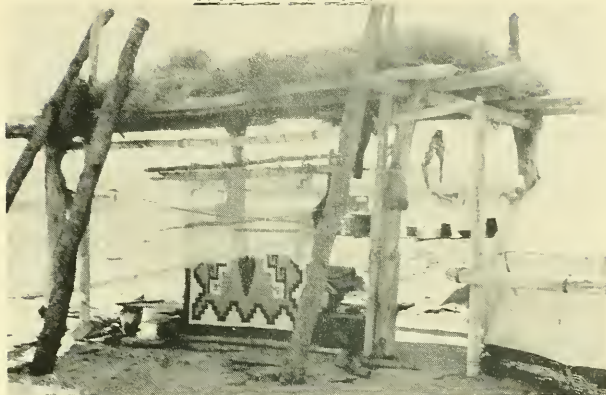
At each camp we have a tent what we call sewing room, where we come together talk over our work. I ask these women what work. They select baby quilt.

I think this family camp doing some good work for their own good. We have three sewing machine. I like to have one more for camp no 1. Mrs. Myron Sippi, Family Camp Worker, San Carlos.

Forestry At Red Lake. Writing of stand improvement. Our total contemplated silvicultured project comprises 1,300 acres. Because progress must of necessity be slow during the training period and because a particular area lends itself admirably to this purpose, the area has been chosen as a separate project. The stand is 25 year old white pine showing a considerable damage from aspen and birch competition. Training was started with a three man crew. This crew will be increased slowly until it consists of two groups of 12 men, each group being headed by an assistant leader. S. S. Gurneaux, Camp Manager.

Progress at Choctaw-Chickasaw Sanitarium. Since the additional men have been working the place looks as if it is covered with Indians. The reforestation work is doing nicely as most of the men are working in the woods and the greater part of them have had plenty of experience as a woodsman....The work has already helped the looks of the reserve so much that one could hardly recognize it...The truck trail has continued to show a great improvement in the help of the reservation as a means of transportation and is also a good fire line as most of the fires start in that part of the reserve. Blue Anderson, Foreman.

INDIANS AT WORK



Navajo Loom Set Up Outside I E C W Cook Tent.  
Cook Weaves In Spare Time.



Apache Women Sew Together. All Work On Each  
Others' Quilts And Contribute For Materials.



Two Blackfeet Basket Makers.



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